A petition was received by the Designated Authority for imposition of anti-dumping duties on import of HR Coils from South Korea, South Africa and Turkey.

(b) Since the petition was not properly documented, the petitioners were asked to furnish full details. The case was subsequently closed as no response was received from the petitioner industry.

Impact of Exim Policy of SSIs

452. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of 340 items shifted of OGL list are being produced by the small scale industry and as such the new Exim Policy would hit hard the SSI sector; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) Out of 340 items shifted to OGL, only 57 items are having small scale angle either due to their reservation for manufacture in the small scale sector or having strong SSI production base. Further, 50 out of these 57 items were already importable against transferable SIL (Special Import Licence). The actual import of these 50 items during 1997-98 (upto November, 1997) was only approx. Rs. 28 crores. The Customs duty on imports provides safeguard to the SSI Sector.

Quality of Marine Products Exports

453. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European union insisted on quality of the marine product exports;

(b) if so, the steps taken to strengthen the Export Inspection Agency to inspect the marine products;

(c) whether it is fact that persons working in the inspection of other export items including engineering, transferred to the inspection of marine products; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Necessary traning programmes have been organised for the concerned technical officials working in Export Inspection Council (EIC)/ Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) and the laboratory facilities of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) are also now being utilised for the inspection and testing of marine products processed by the fishery product processing units for exports.

The Export Inspection Council has also prepared and circulated comprehensive guidelines and instructions in the form of "Quality Assurance and Monitoring System Manual on exports of fresh, frozen processed fish and fishery products" for the guidance and use of the inspecting officers of Export Inspection Agencies.

The Government of India have also introduced a two tier system for inspection of the fishery product processing units for exporting to the European Union. The initial recommendations of an Inter-Departmental Panel (IDP) consisting of technical officials drawn from the Marine Product Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Export Inspect Agencies (EIAs) and Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) are got super-checked by a Supervisory Audit Team (SAT) consisting of officials senior to the members of the IDP and only such units as are cleared by the above two tier inspection, are then approved by Export Inspection Council for exporting to European Union. The approved fishery product processing units are then monitored regularly by the inspecting officers of the Export Inspection Agency.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, depending on the exigencies of work, the services of some of the officials working in Export Inspection Agencies/Export Inspection Council could be utilised for the inspection of marine products after giving them suitable training in Inspection/ Testing of marine products.